

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

THREE NEW ORCHID SPECIES.

BY OAKES AMES.

The three species of orchidaceous plants described below have been for some time the cause of much perplexity, as I have been unable to refer them to species hitherto published. The *Dendrobium* was given to me by Mr. F. Sander, of St. Albans, England, who received it from New Guinea, where it was collected by Micholitz. The only information concerning the specimen referred to the color of the flowers and to the probability of there being a variety characterized by "purple" veins on the perianth. The two *Epidendrums* were collected in Mexico by Mr. C. G. Pringle and are interesting additions to a complex genus. To Mr. R. A. Rolfe, who kindly examined the specimens and on finding them worthy of specific rank described them, I owe my best thanks.

***Dendrobium Micholitzii* Rolfe.**

"Densely tufted; pseudobulbs erect, slender at the base, somewhat thickened upwards and quadrangular, 3-4 inches long, diphyllous at the apex; leaves oblong or obvate-oblong, obtuse, coriaceous, $1\frac{1}{4}$ - $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches long; flowers terminal, several, from the axils of a cluster of imbricating oblong bracts, creamy yellow with a greenish orange blotch on the lip, sometimes with purple veins on the flower; pedicels slender, 8-10 lines long; dorsal sepal oblong lanceolate, acute, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines long; lateral pair triangular, acute, prolonged behind into a stout obtuse somewhat curved mentum $4\frac{1}{2}$ -6 lines long; petals linear, acute, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines long; lip 5-6 lines long, the basal part oblong and somewhat curved, the apex dilated into an obovate obtuse limb, bearing a small oblong crest in the centre; column stout, scarcely over $\frac{1}{2}$ line long.—German New Guinea, Micholitz.

“An interesting addition to the small section *Bobodium*, allied to *D. pumilum* Roxb., but far larger in all its parts, and the pseudobulbs distinctly quadrangular upwards, as in the Burmese *D. quadrangulare* Parish, which, however, has smaller flowers and a proportionately shorter mentum. The remaining species is the Philippine *D. hymenanthum* Rehb. f.” Type in herbarium of the Ames Botanical Laboratory.

Epidendrum Pringlei Rolfe.

“Densely tufted; pseudobulbs ovoid-oblong, 7-10 lines long, 1-2-leaved; leaves linear-oblong, subobtusely, coriaceous, 2-3 inches long; scapes slender, erect, 2½-4 inches long, 1-2-flowered; bracts ovate, apiculate, 1 line long; pedicels 6-8 lines long; sepals broadly lanceolate, acute, 5 lines long, reflexed; petals linear-lanceolate, acute, 5 lines long, reflexed; lip free from column, very shortly stalked, limb dilated into a transversely oblong or suborbicular blade, about 5 lines long by 7 broad, thickened at the base into a two or three-keeled callus from which three slender nerves extend toward the apex; column 2 lines long, broadly clavate.—Mexico, State of Morelos, near Cuernavaca, on tops of mountains, at 8,000 ft. altitude; C. G. Pringle, May 12, 1898.

“A species of the *Encyclium* section, nearly allied to *E. hastatum* Lindl., but more slender and smaller in all its parts. The sepals and petals are somewhat fleshy, and appear to have been dusky brown in colour, while the limb of the lip is membranaceous and white. Of known species it can only be compared with the one mentioned, but it is well characterised by its very slender habit.” Type in herbarium of the Ames Botanical Laboratory.

Epidendrum oaxacanum Rolfe.

“Stems erect, subterete, leafy, 1¾-2¼ ft. high; leaves oblong, subobtusely, coriaceous, 3-4 inches long, ¾-1 inch broad; inflorescences terminal and axillary on the upper part of the stem, somewhat branched, aggregated into a loose head 2½-3 inches long, covered with lanceolate-oblong imbricating striate sheaths at the base; bracts triangular-ovate, acute or acuminate, 1½-2 lines long; pedicels 5-7 lines long, slender; dorsal sepal narrowly spatulate-lanceolate, subobtusely, lateral pair rather broader, all more or less convolute, 5-6 lines long; petals narrowly spatulate-linear, subobtusely, 5-6 lines long; lip adnate to the column, limb three-lobed, 5 lines broad; front lobe ovate-oblong, obtuse, with three prominent erect keels; side lobes spreading, broadly oblong, obtuse, with about five thickened veins; lobes about 2 lines long; disc bearing a pair of broadly oblong crests near the base of the side lobes; column clavate, 4 lines long.—Mexico; State of Oaxaca, Sierra de San Filipe, at 7,500 ft. altitude; C. G. Pringle, Nov. 19, 1894, n. 5830.

“An interesting addition to the small section *Acropleuranthium*, characterised by having both terminal and axillary inflorescences, of which *E. exasperatum* Rehb. f. and *E. Wallisii* Rehb. f. have hitherto been the known representatives. It is very distinct from either and from the dried specimens appears to have yellowish green flowers.” Type in herbarium of the Ames Botanical Laboratory.